TO:      County High School Athletic Director

FROM:  Carrie Blankenship

DATE:  May 29, 2012

RE:       “Roid” Rage! Assembly

Recent studies have shown that the use of steroids among high school students has increased across the nation. This issue not only affects high school athletes but the entire student population. I would like to present an event idea that would not only educate our student body, but also bring forth the first stages of prevention into our school. “Roid” Rage!, will be a school wide assembly that targets all ages and genders. This event will incorporate important information regarding steroid usage and side effects as well as personal testimony provided by our selected speaker Mr. C. Smith.

Students at County High School will benefit greatly from this event due to the current information surrounding the increased usage of steroids among high school students. Here is a brief example of how steroid usage can affect our students: Coffey (2007) describes one student’s desire for the perfect body. This adolescent began using steroids at the age of 15 to improve his physique for football and wrestling. At the peak of his usage, the student athlete was consuming up to 50 times more than the normal level of testosterone found in the human body. Even though this student received the ideal body he was searching, for he also received a host of side effects include depression, sleeplessness, and difficulty in school. Student however are not the only ones pushing for steroid use for athletes. Parents often ask pediatricians for supplements that they deem “safer” than what can be purchased individually. Steroid use is often kept quiet among peers and student athletes. Many adolescent users become dependent on the drug and are not mature enough to understand the long term damage they are causing physically and emotionally.

The above information supports the need for our “Roid” Rage! assembly. Studies prove that this issue is not only a product of poor teenage choices but is often endorsed by parents and coaches. As educators our duty is bring forth issues that will prevent our students from reaching their highest learning potential. We must all remember the mission statement set forth by the Troup County School System: Teaching for the future, Reaching all students, Opening Opportunities, Uniting School, Home, Community, and Business, Preparing students for lifelong learning, responsibility, and service.

The approximate date for this assembley should be within the first few weeks of the new school year. Placing this event so early in the school year will help students understand the impact of their choices and also supplement the beginning of high school athletics. Parents will be made aware of the issues being discussed via email (homeroom teachers responsibility). A handout will be available in the front office outlining the key area the speaker will address. This handout will also provide parents with questions and cite other information and statistics referred to within the program. There will approximately a 1500 dollar charge for the event to cover the speakers fee and pamphlet production.

Thank you for your consideration.